

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JANUARY 20: AGENDA

1. SUMMARY: THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS WILL HOLD THEIR FIRST COUNCIL SESSION UNDER THE LUXEMBOURG PRESIDENCY IN BRUSSELS ON JANUARY 20. A TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING IS DETAILED BELOW. END SUMMARY.

2. SPAIN: DURING THE RESTRICTED PORTION OF THE COUNCIL, THE MINISTERS WILL DISCUSS THE COMMUNITY'S RELATIONS WITH SPAIN.

3. EUROPEAN COUNCIL DATE: COUNCIL PRESIDENT THORN WILL ATTEMPT TO SECURE MEMBER STATE AGREEMENT ON THE DATES OF MARCH 8-9 FOR THE NEXT EUROPEAN COUNCIL, REVISING THE PREVIOUSLY AGREED DATES OF MARCH 15 AND 16.

4. WORK PROGRAM: DURING THE REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION THE MINISTERS WILL FIRST HEAR A STATEMENT FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT THORN ON THE WORK PROGRAM FOR THE LUXEMBOURG PRESIDENCY. IN THIS CONNECTION THEY WILL REVIEW THE DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT ON PROGRESS MADE ON THE ISSUES BEFORE COUNCILS

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ATTENDED BY OTHER MINISTERS.

5. CIEC: THE MINISTERS ARE TO CONSIDER THE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS RELATING TO COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN CIEC. NO DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED.

6. "GLOBAL" MEDITERRANEAN POLICY: THE MINISTERS WILL REVIEW, AND ARE EXPECTED TO APPROVE, A MANDATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MASHREK COUNTRIES. BECAUSE OF TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES RELATING TO THE TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCTION OF THE TEXTS OF THE AGREEMENTS JUST CONCLUDED WITH TUNISIA, MOROCCO AND ALGERIA, THESE AGREEMENTS ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL AT THIS SESSION BUT WILL BE BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE NEXT FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL FEBRUARY 9 AND 10.

7. RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL: THE MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO APPROVE A MANDATE FOR THE RENEGOTIATING OF THE 1973 TRADE AGREEMENT WITH PORTUGAL, INCLUDING A NEW FINANCIAL PROTOCOL. DURING MEETINGS OF THE EC COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES (COREPER) THIS WEEK, THE GERMAN DELEGATION AGREED TO A MORE LIBERAL REGULATION REGARDING SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS FOR PORTUGUESE WORKERS IN THE COMMUNITY AND THE BRITISH DELEGATION AGREED TO CERTAIN CONCESSIONS RELATING TO TEXTILE IMPORTS FROM PORTUGAL.

8. YUGOSLAVIA: THE MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO APPROVE A COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR GRANTING ACCESS TO THE FUNDS OF THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK FOR YUGOSLAVIA ON A PROJECT-BY-PROJECT BASIS. IN ADDITION, THEY WILL APPROVE THE USE OF THESE FUNDS TO PARTIALLY SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGHWAY ACROSS YUGOSLAVIA FROM THE ITALIAN BORDER TO THE GREEK BORDER.

9. GREECE: THE MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO HOLD A GENERAL REVIEW UNDER THIS HEADING AND MAY POSSIBLY ALSO APPROVE A COMMISSION MANDATE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS OF A NEW FINANCIAL PROTOCOL TO THE EXISTING EC-GREEK AGREEMENT.

10. CANADA: THE MINISTERS ARE TO DISCUSS THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT WITH CANADA BUT ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE LITTLE PROGRESS BECAUSE OF DANISH OBJECTIONS TO CONCLUDING SUCH AN AGREEMENT IN THE FACE OF CANADIAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REFUSAL TO GRANT NON-DISCRIMINATORY ACCESS TO RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIES. OUR SOURCES INDICATED THE DANES WILL NOT LIFT THEIR RESERVE AT THIS MEETING.

11. INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURE: OUR CNTACTS GIVE A MIXED ASSESSMENT AS TO WHETHER THE FRENCH WILL LIFT THEIR RESERVE ON THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION TO THE IFAD BUT THE MAJORITY ARE PESSIMISTIC AND DO NOT THINK THE EC WILL BE ABLE TO AGREE TO

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN IFAD AT THIS JUNCTURE.

12. COURT OF JUSTICE: THE MINISTERS WILL CHANGE HATS AT THE
CLOSE OF THE COUNCIL SESSION AND CONVENE AS A CONFERENCE OF
GOVERNMENT
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MEMBER STATES IN ORDER TO APPOINT
ITALIAN LAW PROFESSOR FRANCO CAPOTORTI AS A JUDGE OF THE EUROPEAN
COURT OF JUSTICE REPLACING MR. RICCARDO MONACO. GREENWALD

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